

NAFTA's Trade Adjustment Assistance [TAA], the program designed to assist U.S. workers who have lost their jobs as a result of the relocation of workers and plant facilities. These thousands of jobs may not sound to some as a significant number, however, one displaced American worker, I believe, is one unemployed person too many.

Prior to its passage, proponents estimated that NAFTA would result in 27,000 to 550,000 new jobs. Earlier this year the Department of Commerce estimated that 340,000 jobs would be created because of NAFTA. However, the Department of Commerce has yet to provide documented evidence that new jobs have been created because of NAFTA. Instead, the Department refers to the increase of United States exports to Mexico and Canada as evidence that American workers are employed in new jobs. As expected, overall trade between the United States and Mexico has expanded significantly, but contrary to the predictions of NAFTA supporters; imports increased at a faster rate than exports. Two years ago we had a \$2 billion trade surplus with Mexico. Today, thanks to NAFTA, we have a \$15 to \$18 billion trade deficit with Mexico. What happened to the jobs that NAFTA proponents promised? I'll tell you where the jobs went, they went along with the businesses that moved to Mexico so corporations could take advantage of cheaper labor and generate more profits. All this, at the expense of the American worker.

The humane treatment of all citizens was and still is another concern I have about the North American Free Trade Agreement. Since the passage of NAFTA, numerous companies have been guilty of manufacturing goods produced by child labor. One report estimated that 10 million children under the age of 14 work illegally in Mexico's maquiladoras to supplement their families' incomes.

Unlike our labor laws that ensure worker protection and comparable wages, foreign workers do not have the power to form unions to protest against labor abuses. Consequently, this enables companies to terminate employees at will or without recourse. Unless these workers are guaranteed the right to organize, they will continue be taken advantage of.

According to the November 13, 1995 issue of Business Week, nearly a million people in Mexico have lost their jobs and they do not have any form of unemployment insurance. Adding to their misery is the inability of Mexico's bank to lend money to consumers and companies due to the astronomical interest rates brought on by the devaluation of the peso and the burden of bad loans. Facing this type of financial crisis, how can Mexico's standard of living rise as NAFTA supporters contend?

Just last month, Canada narrowly defeated an attempt by Quebec to become an independent country. Given the political and economical situations facing our trading partners, I believe we should re-evaluate the significance of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

As global warming increases, I believe the issue of the environment needs to be addressed in future trade agreements. Nevertheless, our existing trading partners need to understand that the quest for economic growth should not come at the expense of the environment. We must not allow low environmental standards and lax enforcement as an

incentive for foreign countries to entice companies to move, consequently, stealing jobs from American workers.

As I have stated in previous years, I am not against a fair trade agreement with Canada and Mexico. However, I do believe that Mexico's workers should be given the right to organize and to bargain for better wages and if NAFTA is renegotiated to guarantee that U.S. workers have retraining and education so that they can get one of these high-tech jobs as NAFTA proponents have promised, then I would be willing to support it.

Trade parity cannot be obtained at the cost of our domestic industries and jobs, our environment, and the health and safety of American and Mexican workers. The existing NAFTA fails to secure justice for American and Mexican workers; it fails to make a commitment to democratic ideals; and it fails to cast off the chains of poverty for those most in need of help. If NAFTA's proponents truly believe freer and open trade will lead to more jobs and economic prosperity, then it is only right and proper that we work to improve the vast differences of workers' wages and standard of living among NAFTA's participants.

#### THE SPEAKER SHOULD RESIGN

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, African-Americans have had over 300 years of slavery, segregation, discrimination, and insults.

In most instances, these abuses have been sanctioned by law and today, we are still discriminated against and insulted.

We have walked in gullies, when whites walked on the sidewalk and we have gone in and out of millions of back doors.

We are still suffering from the lingering affects of slavery, segregation, discrimination and the back door policies of America, but we have never put this country at risk or in jeopardy because our feelings were hurt, because we were snubbed or because we had to go and come by the back door.

The position of the Speaker and what the Speaker is doing to this country, because of his hurt feelings while recently aboard Air Force One is un-American and I believe because of his actions, he should resign the office of Speaker.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE NORTHWEST INDIANA HISPANIC COORDINATING COUNCIL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to rise today to once again commend the efforts of the Northwest Indiana Hispanic Coordinating Council for their numerous contributions to Northwest Indiana.

On November 18, 1995, the Coordinating Council will conduct its Seventh Annual Conference on Hispanic Issues. The theme of this year's conference is "Citizenship: Our Rights and Responsibilities."

Recognizing the importance of citizenship, the Hispanic Coordinating Council has dedicated its conference to focus on topics that will help the residents of Northwest Indiana become better citizens of this great Nation.

In order to make this event as successful as possible, the Hispanic Coordinating Council has called on various community leaders to address issues pertaining to this year's theme. I would like to recognize the following distinguished individuals, who will lend their expertise and help make this conference a memorable occasion: Dr. James Yackel, chancellor of Purdue University Calumet; Juan Andrade, Jr., president and executive director of the Midwest Northeast Voters Registration and Education Project; Dr. Samuel Betances, senior consultant, Souder, Betances and Associates; Victor DeMeyer, manager of NIPSCO's Corporate Consumer and Community Affairs Department; Louis Lopez, assistant State director for Senator Richard Lugar; Joseph Mark, chief executive officer, St. Catherine's Hospital; Philip Meyer, telecommunications specialist, Ameritech; Erin Austin Krasik, project director, Students for an Educated Democracy; Ruth Dorochoff, U.S. Department of Justice's Immigration and Naturalization Service; Joseph Medellin, manager human resources, Inland Steel Company; and William (Bill) Luna, president of William Luna and Associates Management Consultants.

Since the focus of this year's conference is citizenship, the Hispanic Coordinating Council is concluding the conference with the swearing-in of 135 new citizens. The swearing-in ceremony will be conducted by the Honorable Rudy Lozano, U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Indiana, and Brian Perryman, Deputy District Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

I commend the efforts of all of those individuals who were involved in making this annual event a reality. It is because of their dedication that this conference is possible.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other colleagues to join me in applauding the participants of the Hispanic Coordinating Council's Conference on Hispanic Issues, as well as those distinguished individuals who will receive one of our Nation's greatest gifts, citizenship.

#### JUSTICE FOR ALIZA MARCUS

HON. JOHN EDWARD PORTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 17, 1995

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased and relieved that on November 9, Turkey's State Security Court voted unanimously to acquit American citizen Aliza Marcus. Justice has been served with this complete vindication.

Ms. Marcus never should have been arrested in the first place. She committed no crime. Ms. Marcus only was guilty of reporting the truth about the ongoing Turkish military campaign of forced evacuation and destruction of Kurdish villages. She was merely doing her job—and doing it well.

Ms. Marcus' acquittal is an encouraging indication that Turkey may be willing to reform its ways. However, this is one small step down a long road. Turkey's prosecution of speech,